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Docket No. HRT-0293

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Stevens et al.
Serial No. : 10/099,690 Art Unit : 3738
Filed : March 15, 2002 Examiner : D. Isabella
Title : Method and Apparatus for Thoracoscopic Intracardiac Procedures

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

May 16, 2003
(Date of Deposit)

Brian S. Tomko
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)



(Signature)

May 16, 2003
(Date of Signature)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on December 18, 2002, the time for responding having been extended by petition, please consider the following:

MAILED
MAY 29 2003
GROUP 3700